

ESTABLISHING AN OBJECTIVE FOR COORDINATING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF OTHER AREAS IN THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN REGION AND THE POLICY TO BE FOLLOWED IN THE ATTAINMENT THEREOF

JUNE 30, 1959.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. BIBLE, from the Committee on the District of Columbia, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S.J. Res. 42]

The Committee on the District of Columbia, to whom was referred the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 42) to establish an objective for coordinating the development of the District of Columbia with the development of other areas in the Washington metropolitan region and the policy to be followed in the attainment thereof, and for other purposes, after full consideration, report favorably thereon with amendments and recommend that the joint resolution as amended do pass.

The amendments are as follows:

Page 4, strike all of lines 6 through 10, and insert in lieu thereof the following:

and other agencies of Government within the Washington metropolitan region are invited and encouraged to engage in an intensive study of the final report and recommendation of the Joint Committee on Washington Metropolitan Problems with a view to submitting to the Congress the specific recommendations of each of the agencies of Government specified.

Page 4, line 14, after the word "Fairfax" insert the words "and the cities of Alexandria and Falls Church".

Page 4, line 15, insert a period after the word "Virginia" and strike the rest of the line.

Page 4, strike line 16.

The purpose of the joint resolution is to establish an objective for coordinating the development of the District of Columbia with the development of other areas in the Washington metropolitan region and the policy to be followed in the attainment thereof.

Section 1 provides that the act may be cited as the "Washington Metropolitan Region Development Act."

Section 2 of the joint resolution recognizes the need (a) for the development of the District of Columbia and management of its public affairs to be coordinated with the development of the other areas of the Washington metropolitan region and the management of the public affairs of such other areas and (b) for the activities of all agencies of the Federal Government carried out in the Washington metropolitan region to be coordinated with the development of all areas of the region, so that community development problems of the region may be solved on a unified metropolitan basis.

Section 3 provides that the Congress declares that the functions, powers, and duties of the Congress, the executive branch of the Federal Government, and the Board of Commissioners and all other agencies of the District of Columbia, shall be exercised and carried out in such manner as (with proper recognition of the sovereignty of the State of Maryland and the Commonwealth of Virginia in respect of those areas of the Washington metropolitan region as are situate within their respective jurisdictions) will best facilitate the attainment of the objective of the coordinated development of the areas of the region and coordinated management of the public affairs of such agencies so as to contribute effectively to the solution of the community development problems of the region on a unified metropolitan basis.

Section 4 provides that the Congress further declares that priority should be given to the solution on a unified metropolitan basis of the problems of water supply, sewage disposal, and water pollution and transportation.

Section 5, as amended by the committee, declares that the officers and agencies of the executive branch of the Federal Government and other officers and agencies of the District of Columbia, and other agencies of Government within the Washington metropolitan region are invited and encouraged to engage in an intensive study of the final report and recommendation of the Joint Committee on Washington Metropolitan Problems (S. Rept No. 38, 86th Cong., 1st sess., filed January 31, 1959, pursuant to H. Con. Res. 172, 85th Cong.) with a view to submitting to the Congress the specific recommendations of each of the agencies of Government specified.

Section 6 defines the Washington metropolitan region as the District of Columbia, the counties of Montgomery and Prince Georges in the State of Maryland, the counties of Arlington and Fairfax, and the cities of Alexandria and Falls Church in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

This joint resolution developed from the studies conducted by the Joint Committee on Washington Metropolitan Problems authorized by House Concurrent Resolution 172, 85th Congress and described it in its final report, as set forth above.

Hearings were conducted by the full committee on the proposal on May 19, 1959, at which time no witnesses appeared in opposition thereto.

The Commissioners of the District of Columbia recommended that the joint resolution, as amended, be passed, and advised that the Bureau of the Budget had no objection to the submission of their report to the Congress. The Washington Metropolitan Regional Conference

at its semiannual meeting held on May 14, 1959, adopted a resolution signifying to Congress its support for the general objectives and policy outlined in the first four sections of Senate Joint Resolution 42, and the amendment to section 5 of the joint resolution as adopted by your committee. The Washington Metropolitan Regional Conference is an organization which is voluntary in character, both in composition and binding policy determination, and is composed of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia and elected State and local officials of the Washington metropolitan region.

Your committee feels that the enactment of the joint resolution would provide a congressional policy declaration which would have the effect of bringing the Congress, the Federal Government, the District of Columbia government, the States of Virginia and Maryland, and the various county and city governmental units into closer partnership with area governments in future development.



